

KINGTON RURAL DISTRICT
HEREFORDSHIRE



Annual Report
on the state of the Public Health
for the Year 1943.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

H. F. Green, M.A., M.B., D.P.H. (on War Service from 17-7-42).

*Acting Medical Officer of Health (Deputy County Medical
Officer):*

I. F. MacKenzie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.
(Priv. Teleph. Weobley 59),

Area Medical Offices:

4, Church Street, Leominster. (Tel. Leom. 95).

Clerk in Northern Area Medical Office:

B. J. Scandrett. (On War Service from 1939).

Temporary Clerk: Miss D. M. J. Bramfitt.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (Part-Time):

J. P. Lingen (Tel. New Radnor 4).

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kington Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the Year 1943.

Throughout the year the health of the community has continued to be remarkably good and no major outbreaks of notifiable or non-notifiable disease occurred.

Your Sanitary Inspector and I maintain close co-operation on all matters affecting the health of the community. I am happy to acknowledge again my appreciation of the thorough manner in which he discharges the duties of his position for this contributes in no small measure to the effective execution, under war-time conditions, of the Health Services of the Council.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

I. F. MACKENZIE,

Acting Area Medical Officer of Health

20th May, 1944.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	45544
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	1381
Rateable Value...	...	...	...	...	...	£14,422
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£63/13/10

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year:

<i>Birth Rate</i> (per 1,000 of the estimated resident population)	...	15.3
<i>Stillbirth Rate</i> (per 1,000 live and still births)	...	35.3
<i>Death Rate</i> (per 1,000 of estimated resident population)	...	9.9
<i>Infantile Mortality Rate</i> (per 1,000 live births)	...	48.8

Maternal Mortality. There was one death under this heading in 1943.

Comparable Data for England and Wales 1943.

Still Birth		Infantile	
Birth Rate.	Rate.	Death Rate.	Mortality Rate.
16.5.	0.5.	12.1.	49.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

Laboratory Facilities:

Laboratory facilities continued to be available at the County Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, which for the duration of the war, is under the administration of the Medical Research Council.

Clinics: There are no clinics provided by the authority. Under a County Council Scheme a Child Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly in Kingston, which residents in the Rural District are invited to attend.

The nearest Venereal Diseases Clinic is at the County Council Hospital, Hereford.

I am indebted to Mr. J. P. Lingen, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following statement (Sections C. to E.) furnished under Article 27 (Sub-Section 18) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES THE AREA.

Water: Sampling.

Samples are taken as and when required. Most of the villages are dependent upon wells the majority of which are of a shallow type. The village of Pembridge is solely dependent on wells and hand pumps. As there is a Sewage Works here, it is, as I mentioned in the report for 1942, essential that a piped supply be provided as soon as possible.

Section C.—Continued.

Drainage and Sewerage:

Three of the Villages have Sewage Works. They are Pembridge, Lyonshall, and Eardisley. The Eardisley works have not functioned properly during the year and improvement work will require to be undertaken soon.

Rivers and Streams:

No pollution that calls for any comment. No complaints were received during 1943.

Refuse Disposal:

There are three refuse disposal centres which are under the control of the Council and which operate satisfactorily.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:

Inspections: During the year 619 visits of inspection were made.

Number of Inspections under the Housing and Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	150
Number of Inspections under Workshops and Factories Acts	...	...	...	...	...	58
Number of Inspections under the Milk and Daries Acts						147
Number of Inspections in connection with Water Supplies						35
Infectious Disease and visits in connection therewith	...					18
Premises and Clothing (lots) disinfected	...	...	...			18

Notices Issued:

Informal	...	...	...	...	...	35
Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Defects Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	35

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts ... 50
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 75
2. Number of dwelling houses found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation ... 15

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... Nil

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

- (a) By Owners ... 15
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

65 Inspections were carried out during the year of premises where meat and other foods are sold by retail. I found these shops to be clean and well kept. Where the foods were found to be in a bad condition and had to be destroyed the trouble arose through delay in transit and other War-time Conditions.

Food found to be unfit for human consumption:

3 lots of Butcher's Meat	...	total 180 lbs.
Canned Fruits and Meats	...	total 5 dozen tins.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During 1943 the incidence of Measles reached epidemic proportions and altogether 85 notifications were received. Whooping Cough also occurred much more frequently than in the previous year. There were 34 instances of this disease. Scarlet Fever provided 5 notifications and fortunately these cases, and the single case of Diphtheria, were mild in character.

Other notifications were in respect of Pneumonia (3 cases), Erysipelas (2 cases) and Ophthalmia Neonatorum (1 case).

There is set out in the appended table an analysis of all the cases according to age.

Analysis of Total Notified Cases according to age:

DISEASE.	Age of Patient.														Total
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	Over 40	Un-known	
Measles ...	-	4	2	-	5	8	3	22	34	6	-	-	1	-	85
Pneumonia ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3
Whooping Cough	2	1	1	6	4	4	5	8	2	1	-	-	-	-	34
Scarlet Fever ...	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The state of Immunisation of the child population of the district at the end of 1943 is indicated in the table below.

Variation in the percentages from those recorded last year are largely due to the use of new figures for the totals in the age groups which were kindly provided from Food Registration records.

Under 5 years of age.		Between 5 and 15 years of age.	
Number.	Percentage of Group.	Number.	Percentage of Group.
178	41.2 %	547	60.1 %

Tuberculosis.

At the end of 1943 the Tuberculosis Register contained the names of 8 males and 14 females who normally reside in the Council's area.

During the year 6 new cases were notified, 5 on account of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one because of the presence of the disease in parts of the body other than the lungs. During the same period one death occurred from this disease.

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages).

Disease.				Male.	Female	Total.
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0	1	1
Influenza	...	...	...	2	1	3
Cancer (all forms)	...	...	...	4	7	11
Heart and Blood Vessels	...	...	...	8	8	16
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	...	...	...	5	1	6
Acute Enteritis	...	...	...	1	0	1
Diseases of Digestive System	...	...	...	2	2	4
Nephritis	...	...	...	3	0	3
Maternal Causes	...	...	...	0	1	1
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	1	0	1
Violence	...	...	...	1	1	2
Other Causes	...	...	...	1	3	4
Total	...	...	...	28	25	53

